

## Function 250: General Science, Space, and Technology

This function includes the National Science Foundation (NSF), programs at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) except for aviation programs, and general science programs at the Department of Energy (DOE).

This is one of the few areas of domestic policy where the President's 2007 budget increases funding. The budget provides \$26.1 billion in funding for appropriated science, space, and technology programs for 2007, which is \$1.7 billion above the 2006 enacted level excluding the emergency funding NASA received to repair hurricane-related damage. The budget splits the increase among all three agencies. Both NASA and NSF are part of the President's American Competitiveness Initiative to increase students' achievement in math and science.

Science Funding Increases		
(Billions)	2007	Increase v. 2006
NASA	\$16.8	\$0.519
NSF	\$6.0	\$0.439
DOE Science	\$4.1	\$0.505
Total Increase		\$1.463

***NASA Funding Increases Half a Billion Dollars*** — In contrast to the budget's cut in overall domestic services, funding for NASA increases by 3.2 percent (\$519 million), to a total of \$16.8 billion for 2007. Of that total, \$723 million is included in Function 400 (Transportation) and the remainder is in this function. Within NASA, much of the funding for the President's announced mission to the moon and Mars (the Vision for Space Exploration) comes from funding cuts to existing programs.

- ***Mission to the Moon and Mars*** — NASA's budget includes a \$1.3 billion (76.4 percent) increase for continued development of a new vehicle to return humans to the moon, and from there to eventually launch flight to Mars. The budget provides a total of \$3.1 billion for this purpose.
- ***Shuttle Funding Cut*** — To help offset the cost of the efforts to return to the moon, NASA cuts funding for the shuttle by \$371 million (8.4 percent) below the 2006 non-emergency level, providing \$4.1 billion for 2007. NASA plans to return the shuttle to flight this year to service the International Space Station and the Hubble telescope, and then cease funding it in 2010 along with the space station.
- ***Space Station*** — The 2007 budget increases funding for the space station to \$1.8 billion, an increase of \$58 million over the 2006 enacted level. From 2007 through 2011, when NASA plans to discontinue funding, the budget provides \$10.8 billion for the space station.

- ***Hubble Space Telescope*** — The budget includes \$337 million to operate the Hubble telescope, and to prepare for the shuttle’s potential servicing mission in 2008.
- ***Other Funding Cuts Within NASA*** — NASA cuts funding for education programs and for research and technology in aeronautics and other areas not related to space exploration.

***National Science Foundation Funding Increases \$439 Million*** — The President’s budget provides \$6.0 billion for NSF appropriated programs for 2007, including \$67 million in Function 050 (National Defense). This is an increase of \$439 million (7.9 percent) over the 2006 enacted level. Despite the Administration’s focus on improving teaching and achievement in math and science, the budget cuts \$17 million (27.0 percent) of NSF’s funding for the Math and Science Partnership program, providing \$46 million for this program designed to encourage college professors to work with elementary and secondary students.

***DOE General Science Funding Increases by \$505 Million*** — The 2007 budget provides \$4.1 billion for general science programs in DOE, an increase of \$505 million (14.1 percent) above the 2006 enacted level. This increase comes after years of basically stagnant funding – in fact, the 2006 funding level was a cut of \$39 million below the 2005 enacted level. The 2007 budget increases funding for every program in the Office of Science. Notably, it provides a \$286 million increase for the Basic Energy Sciences program, which designs and constructs scientific facilities and manages the research done there, for total funding of \$1.4 billion. It provides another large increase – \$84 million – for the Advanced Scientific Computing Research program, which receives \$319 million for 2007. It also increases funding by \$87 million for nuclear physics, providing a total of \$454 million to four user accelerator facilities and other laboratories across the country.